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City-Cowley County  
Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 25, 2022

### **County Wide COVID-19 Update**

The health department monitors the health of county residents. The following is an update to inform the community of the current status of the COVID-19 pandemic in Cowley County.

**Respiratory infections in Cowley County continue to effect local residents.** Locally new COVID-19 infections continue to decline while Influenza A infections have increased. All residents are encouraged to exercise caution and to take precautions to avoid the contraction and spread of illness. Over the past 90 days one hundred sixty-two (162) Cowley County residents have been treated for influenza like illness in area emergency departments according to reported patient discharge data.

### **LOCAL SCHOOLS:**

Local schools continue to report incidents of illness, attendance remains improved. Students that develop symptoms of illness should closely follow school district policies for attendance. Contact your school RN if you have questions about COVID testing for local students.

### **COVID-19 TESTING:**

Testing requests have declined county wide.

The Health Department provides testing on a daily basis by appointment. If you feel ill you are advised to test to learn if you have COVID-19 or influenza in order to help stop the spread of illness. If you develop symptoms and need a test please contact the Winfield Office and staff will help you, detail the process, and get you scheduled.

### **COWLEY COUNTY ILLNESS REPORT BY THE NUMBERS:**

The positivity rate for the last seven days has declined to 2.88%. Testing volumes continued to slow and are currently averaging fewer than 100 people per week in the county.

As of February 23, 2022, ten thousand thirty (10,030) COVID-19 cases have been confirmed in Cowley County since the start of the pandemic. Through February 23, 2022, three hundred nine (309) new cases have been reported for this month. One new death has been reported this week.

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Overall, one hundred fifty (150) Cowley County residents have died from complications related to COVID-19 since March of 2020. (The 3 most current deaths have not yet appeared in the KDHE totals for Cowley County but were reported to the PHO by local hospitals).

Month to month new case information is presented numerically in the tables below:

Month/Year	New Cases
January 2021	828
February 2021	304
March 2021	90
April 2021	47
May 2021	59
June 2021	28
July 2021	153
August 2021	488
September 2021	592
October 2021	386
November 2021	606
December 2021*	653
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4159</b>

Month/Year	January 2021	January 2022	February 2022
New Cases	828	2675	309*

Year Total	2021	2022
Total Cases	4159	2984
% of cases	100%	72%

This chart compares the previous year, 2021 with the current year to date.

Cowley County is currently identified as an area where COVID-19 infection remains substantial.

If you do become ill, please do not participate in any group events until after you have fully recovered from your illness. For as long as the pandemic persists Cowley County residents are advised to take all necessary precautions to prevent the contraction and spread of ANY illness.

- Stay home if you feel ill.
- If you develop symptoms of illness, be tested to determine if you are infected.
- Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer.
- Clean high touch surfaces with disinfecting cleaners (doors, counters etc.).
- Wear a mask that properly covers your nose and mouth in public.
- Avoid crowds and large social gatherings.
- When ill you MUST stay home and isolate from others so you will not spread the virus or any other illness.
- Please be kind to and respectful of others.

The next health update will be published Friday, March 4, 2022

Stay well.